

Claims

1. An optical communications adapter module, comprising:
 - a casing of a XENPAK-sized module having a faceplate;
 - an optical communications board assembly positioned within the casing, the optical communications board assembly having a selected one of a data transmission connector and a data reception connector;
 - a first optical connector coupled to the selected one of the data transmission connector and the data reception connector;
 - a second optical connector disposed on the faceplate; and
 - fiber optics capable of communicating data, coupling the first optical connector and the second optical connector.
2. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the optical communications board assembly is positioned with an electrical connector located at a rear end of the casing and the face plate located at a front end of the casing.
3. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the casing includes a bottom portion, a top cover, and the face plate
4. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the optical communications board assembly is an XPAK board assembly and has LC-type optical connectors.

5. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the optical communications board assembly is an X2 board assembly.

6. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 5, wherein the first optical connector is an SC-type optical connector.

7. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the second optical connector is an SC-type optical connector.

8. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the first optical connectors is an LC-type optical connector.

9. An optical communications adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the fiber optics between the first optical connector and the second connector is at least as long as a distance between the optical communications board assembly and the face plate.

10. An optical communication adapter module as recited by claim 1, wherein the first optical connector is coupled to the data transmission connector, and the adapter module further comprises
a third optical connector coupled to the data reception connection;
a fourth optical connector disposed on the faceplate; and

another fiber optics capable of communicating data, coupling the third and fourth optical connectors.

11. A method to communicate data, comprising:

receiving communication signals from a client device, by a communications adapter module, through an optical communications board assembly of the communication adapter module;

routing the received communication signals from the optical communications board assembly to an optical conversion cord; and

transmitting the communication signals onto a network by the optical conversion cord.

12. A method to communicate data as recited in claim 11, wherein receiving communication signals from the client device includes receiving communication signals by one of an XPAK board assembly and an X2 board assembly.

13. A method to communicate data as recited in claim 11, wherein routing the received communication signals includes sending the communication signals from an LC optical connector to an SC optical connector through fiber optics of the optical conversion cord.

14. A method to communicate data as recited in claim 11, wherein receiving communication signals from the client device includes receiving communication signals through an electrical connector of the optical communications board assembly.
15. A method to communicate data as recited in claim 11, wherein routing the received communication signals includes sending the communication signals from an SC optical connector to an SC optical connector through fiber optics of the optical conversion cord.
16. An optical communications system, comprising:
 - a client computing device including a microprocessor and a network processor coupled to one another; and
 - an optical communications adapter module coupled to the client computing device, an optical communications board assembly being positioned within the module so the optical communications board assembly is capable of coupling with the client computing device through an electrical connector, optical connectors of the optical communications board assembly being extended to be positioned in connector openings of the module.
17. An optical communications system as recited in claim 16, wherein the optical communications adapter module includes,

a first optical connector coupled to a second optical connector by fiber optics capable of communicating data between the first optical connector and the second optical connector, the first optical connector coupled to a data transmission connector of the optical communications board assembly and the second optical connector being positioned at a face plate of the module; and

a third optical connector coupled to a fourth optical connector through fiber optics capable of transmitting data, the third optical connector being coupled to a data reception connector of the optical communications board assembly and the fourth optical connector being positioned at the face plate of the module.

18. An optical communications system as recited in claim 17, wherein the optical communications board assembly is an X2 board assembly.

19. An optical communications system as recited in claim 17, wherein the client computing device is one of a hub, a server, and a router.

20. An optical communications system as recited in claim 17, wherein the optical communications adapter module is capable of communicating with a network.

21. An optical communications system as recited in claim 17, wherein the module is a XENPAK-sized module.

22. An optical communications system as recited in claim 17, wherein the optical communications board assembly is an XPAK board assembly.